



MAY 07 2002
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

Kimberly R. Hild
Henkel Corporation Patent Department
2500 Renaissance Blvd., Suite 200
Gulph Mills, PA 19406

In re Application of RANFT et al
U.S. Application No.: 09/807,948
Int. Application No.: PCT/EP99/07683
Int. Filing Date: 13 October 1999
Priority Date: 22 October 1998
Attorney Docket No.: H 3516 PCT/US
For: HOT-MELT ADHESIVE COMPONENT
LAYERS FOR SMART CARDS

DECISION

This is in response to applicant's "Petition to Change Name of Inventor Under 37 C.F.R. §1.182" filed 22 April 2002.

BACKGROUND

On 13 October 1999, applicant filed international application PCT/EP99/07683, which claimed priority of an earlier Germany application filed 22 October 1998. A copy of the international application was communicated to the USPTO from the International Bureau on 04 May 2000. A Demand for international preliminary examination, in which the United States was elected, was filed on 03 May 2000, prior to the expiration of nineteen months from the priority date. Accordingly, the thirty-month period for paying the basic national fee in the United States expired at midnight on 23 April 2001 (22 April 2001 was a Sunday).

On 20 April 2001, applicant filed national stage papers in the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US). The submission was accompanied by, *inter alia*, the basic national fee required by 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1).

On 24 May 2001, the DO/EO/US mailed a Notification of Missing Requirements Under 35 U.S.C. 371 (Form PCT/DO/EO/905), which indicated that a properly executed oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.497 must be filed.

On 27 November 2001, applicant filed an executed declaration.

On 12 December 2001, the DO/EO/US mailed a Notification of Defective Response, which indicated that the 27 November 2001 was improperly executed.

On 14 January 2002, applicant filed an executed declaration.

On 22 March 2002, the DO/EO/US mailed a Notification of Defective Response, which indicated that the name of the second listed inventor does not match that shown on the international application.

On 22 April 2002, applicant filed the present petition.

DISCUSSION

MPEP 605.04(c) states in relevant part,

In cases where an inventor's name has been changed after the application has been filed and the inventor desires to change his or her name on the application, he or she must submit a petition under 37 CFR 1.182. . . . The petition must include an appropriate petition fee and an affidavit signed with both names and setting forth the procedure whereby the change of name was effected, or a certified copy of the court order.

In the present case, applicants have submitted an affidavit signed with the names Liane Meuten and Liane Wuestrich, setting forth that Liane Wuestrich has changed her name to Liane Meuten due to marriage.

The papers have been reviewed, and the declaration filed 27 November 2001 and executed by Liane Meuten is accepted.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons above, the petition under 37 CFR 1.182 is GRANTED.

The petition fee will be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-1250 as authorized in the petition.

The application has an International Filing Date of 13 October 1999 and a date under 35 U.S.C. 371 of 27 November 2001.

This application is being forwarded to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) for further processing in accordance with this decision.



Bryan Tung
PCT Legal Examiner
PCT Legal Office

Telephone: 703-308-6614
Facsimile: 703-308-6459